

Vol. 17 Nos. 11 & 12  
Nov.-Dec., 1965

## Conservation Pledge

I give my  
pledge as an American  
to save and faithfully to  
defend from waste the  
natural resources of  
my country—its soil  
and minerals, its  
forests, waters  
and wildlife

*Published Bi-Monthly  
in the interest of conser-  
vation of Louisiana's nat-  
ural resources by the  
Wild Life and Fisheries  
Commission, 400 Royal  
Street, New Orleans, Lou-  
isiana, 70130.*



Perhaps our best known game bird and the one most sought after by the hunter is the bob-white quail which is found all year round throughout Louisiana except in water-covered swamps and marshes that do not furnish suitable habitat. Its color is reddish brown and in the pot its savor is indescribable. Quail season starts November 25 and runs through February 15. The daily bag limit is ten and possession 20. The predictions now are for a better season than last year's, although hunter success will vary widely throughout the state.  
(Cover photo by Joe L. Herring)

# LOUISIANA *Conservationist*

LOUISIANA WILD LIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

*Subscription Free to Louisiana Residents  
Upon Written Request*

JOHN J. McKEITHEN  
Governor

J. D. HAIR, JR.  
Director



R. K. YANCEY  
Asst. Director

### LOUISIANA CONSERVATIONIST

STEVE HARMON ..... Editor  
McFADDEN DUFFY ..... Staff Writer  
EDNARD WALDO ..... Staff Writer  
ROBERT DENNIE ..... Photographer

### LOUISIANA WILD LIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

JOHN E. KYLE, JR., *Chairman* ..... Berwick  
H. B. FAIRCHILD, *Vice Chairman* ..... Sunshine  
A. J. BUQUET ..... Houma  
JOHN P. CRAIN ..... Grand Chenier  
HOBSON NORRIS ..... West Monroe  
JIMMIE THOMPSON ..... Alexandria  
H. CLAY WRIGHT ..... Evergreen

### DIVISION CHIEFS

STEVE HARMON  
Chief, Education & Publicity

JOE L. HERRING  
Chief, Fish and Game

JULIUS L. BOOK  
Chief, Law Enforcement

ALLAN ENSMINGER  
Chief, Refuge

TED O'NEIL  
Chief, Fur Division

CHARLES R. SHAW  
Pittman-Robertson Coordinator

ROBERT LAFLEUR  
Chief, Water Pollution Control

HARRY SCHAFER  
Dingell-Johnson Coordinator

LYLE S. ST. AMANT  
Chief, Oysters, Water Bottoms and Seafood

LARRY COOK  
Chief Accountant



Permission to reprint material in this publication will be granted provided that it is not used for advertising or commercial purposes and provided that proper credit is given. Contributions and photographs are welcome, but LOUISIANA CONSERVATIONIST cannot be responsible for loss or damage to unsolicited material. Manuscripts should be addressed to Editor, LOUISIANA CONSERVATIONIST, Wild Life & Fisheries Building, 400 Royal St., New Orleans, La. 70130.

Second-Class Postage Paid at New Orleans, Louisiana.



# PASS-A-LOUTRE MANAGED HUNTS

A PRE-SEASON HUNT was conducted on the Pass-a-Loutre Waterfowl Management Area in early September by "Betsy" and she bagged three duck hunting camps. In addition to the camps, she also bagged hundreds of acres of aquatic waterfowl food plants, numerous hunting boats, mattresses and other hunting gear from our main headquarter facility storage area.

The Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, realizing the importance of providing a public waterfowl hunting area, has decided to conduct the public hunting program again this year even though it will be on a curtailed basis as compared with past years. The Commission began the public hunting program in 1953, and it is with considerable pride that this Commission has played the role of host to thousands of duck hunters over the years.

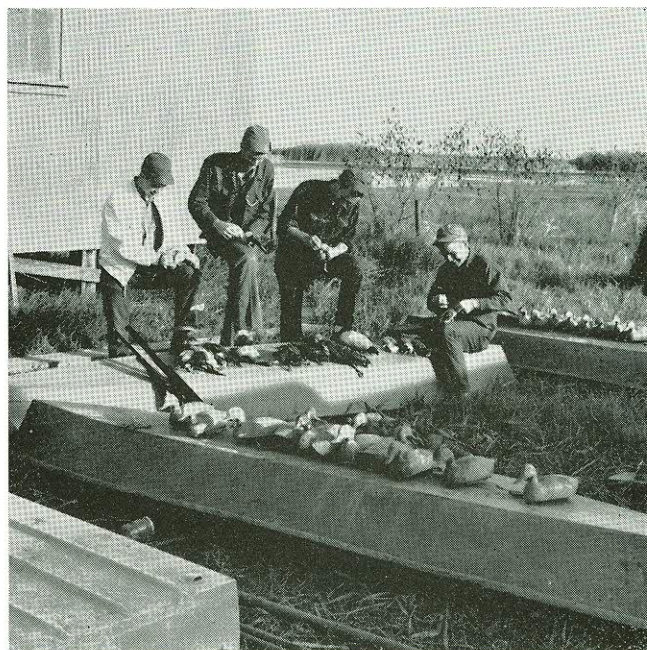
At the present time it appears that six of the nine public camps can be repaired before the opening of the duck season, and every effort will be made to repair the three camps damaged by "Betsy".

In spite of the five to six foot storm tides experienced on Pass-a-Loutre, it appears that marsh conditions will be relatively good for the hunting season. Many of the important waterfowl food plants such as the delta duck potato and fresh water 3-square had matured prior to "Betsy's" visit and will be available to wintering waterfowl. In many areas, stands of aquatics were protected by the large roseau cane.

Hunting will be permitted again this year on Tuesday-Wednesday and Saturday-Sunday of each week thus providing a rest period between hunts so that the ducks will have an opportunity to resume their normal activities. This has proven to be very desirable in past years in holding large numbers of waterfowl on Pass-a-Loutre throughout the season.

The Commission has encouraged the use of waterfowl retrievers as a good conservation practice on Pass-a-Loutre and encourages anyone who has a retriever to bring it along.

In addition to the 20,000-acre area on Pass-a-Loutre utilized by the public camp hunting program, the Commission has a portion of the area open to the general public for hunting and issues season-long permits at no cost to the hunters. On the entire area east of South Pass hunting is restricted to morning shooting only. On the west shore of South Pass shooting is permitted all day in order to utilize the limited goose shooting available on this portion of the area during afternoon hours. Hunters who wish to utilize the public



Alan Ensminger

In addition to transportation from Venice to the Pass-a-Loutre area, the Wild Life and Fisheries Commission will again furnish camp, duck boat, decoys and cooking utensils.

camp facilities at Pass-a-Loutre must first submit an application in accordance with the procedures outlined.

The applications will be numbered upon arrival at the office and on designated days each week a selection of the hunters will be made by drawing names. Representatives of various sportsmen's groups will be requested to assist during the drawings. Each group of selected hunters will be picked up by Wild Life and Fisheries Commission boats at Venice on the day prior to their two-day hunting trip and will be returned to Venice when the hunt is over.

All hunters must provide their own transportation to Venice in addition to food, bed linens, and hunting gear. Eight men will be assigned to each camp. Hunting areas near each camp will be suggested. Duck boats and decoys will be provided, as well as all cooking utensils.

The schedule for the drawings for each hunt during the season is as follows:

| Application Period | Drawing | Hunting Dates            |
|--------------------|---------|--------------------------|
| Nov. 15-22         | Nov. 24 | Dec. 4 & 5; 7 & 8        |
| Nov. 22-29         | Dec. 2  | Dec. 11 & 12; 14 & 15    |
| Nov. 29-Dec. 6     | Dec. 9  | Dec. 18 & 19; 21 & 22    |
| Dec. 6-13          | Dec. 16 | Dec. 28 & 29; Jan. 1 & 2 |
| Dec. 13-20         | Dec. 23 | Jan. 4 & 5; 8 & 9        |

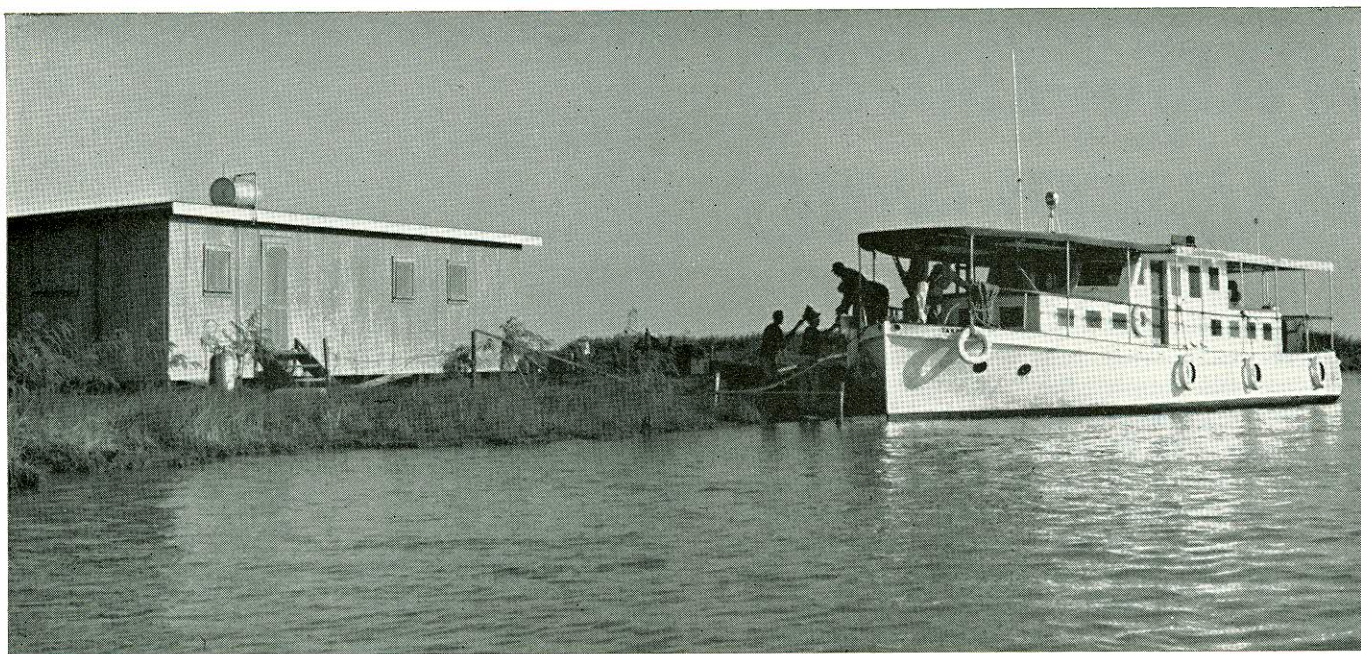
Letters must be postmarked between the dates specified in the application period for applicable hunts and received prior to the drawing.

The rules governing the public shooting ground program are as follows:

1. The area will be open to hunters through application: preference in drawing will be given to resident hunters, although any spaces unfilled by residents will be made available to nonresident hunters for the standard set fee.

2. After the drawing and up to one week prior





*Allan Ensminger*

Although hurricane "Betsy" inflicted severe damage to many of the installations at Pass-A-Loutre, six of the public camps will be repaired before opening date.

to the hunt, any spaces unfilled may be had by applying to the New Orleans office.

3. Transportation from Venice to the hunting grounds and return will be furnished.

4. Bed, cooking utensils, fuel, stove, drinking water, and lights will be furnished, but no linens, fishing equipment, guns, shells, or food—bring your own.

5. One duck boat, paddles, pushpoles and decoys will be furnished for every two hunters.

6. Camps will be assigned by the supervisor in charge.

7. Duck, goose and coot shooting only will be permitted. Waterfowl retrievers only are permitted on the hunt.

8. All hunting or shooting on the Pass-a-Loutre area is limited to morning hours and must stop by 12:00 o'clock noon. Violation of this provision will result in the immediate expulsion from the area and denial of the privilege of returning to the area in the future.

9. Applicants may apply for the hunts throughout the season, but no more than one application per hunt.

10. A fee of \$5.00 will be charged each hunter selected for the trip. The full amount must accompany each application. Reimbursement of the full fee will be made if the hunter is not selected.

11. All hunters will be required to sign an agreement releasing the Commission from the responsibility for any bodily harm or personal loss and agreeing to pay for any Commission property lost or destroyed.

12. Permits may be transferred from one person to another upon endorsement. No refunds will be made for permits which have been issued.

13. Hunting is restricted to men only 16 years or older; if anyone is under 18 years of age, he must be accompanied by his father or guardian.

14. No alcoholic beverages will be allowed on the boats or the camps.

15. Valid Louisiana hunting license or over age permit and waterfowl stamp will be required.

16. No boats, motors, or rifles are permitted on the area.

17. Simple camp rules must be observed.

#### HOW TO APPLY

1. Make application direct to Ted Joanen, Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission, 400 Royal Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, 70130.

2. You may apply in a group not to exceed eight (8) persons, naming each person in the application. Full remittance of fee at \$5.00 per hunter must accompany the application. (Send personal check or money order—no cash). Reimbursement in full will be made within three days after the drawing if the hunter or group is not selected.

3. Submit only one application per hunt; if the name of any person is received in more than one application for the same hunt, it will be disqualified.

4. Applications for the hunts must be made in advance, **THROUGH THE MAILS** and post-marked during the application dates according to the schedule in order to be considered for the drawing.

5. Specify the dates desired, and indicate whether or not the other hunt during the week of your request will be acceptable if your preferred dates are filled.

6. The quota for each hunt will be selected by public drawing in the Refuge Division office, between 10 A.M. and 12 noon, on the designated dates. Decisions of supervisory personnel are final.

7. Permits and specific instructions will be mailed to selected hunters within three days after the drawing. ✕